termination, and he was of the opinion that the passage by Congress of a bill giving the Executive authority to make unever might occur would have a good effect on the Spanish Government as well as on the Congress and the people of the United States. As for the intimation by Spain that Gen. Lee's recall would be considered a great favor to that country and the objections made to sending war vessels with relief supplies to Cuban ports, the President assured his conferees that danger from the attitude assumed in these particulars by the Madrid Government had been avoided. The result of the conference was an agreement That it would be better for Congress and not the

Executive to take the initiative in placing the

tive or the legislative branch should take the

first step in preparing for whatever might come,

and he believed that some authoritative an-

souncement of the fact that the Executive and

Congress were not unmindful of the duty which

they owed to the country should be made at

sace. While expressing a hopeful view of the

outcome, the President was by no means certain

that the present crisis would have a peaceful

country in condition for an emergency, and the bill appropriating \$50,000,000 was accordingly ntroduc ed by Mr. Cannon. Just as soon as the War Department was in-formed this afternoon that the bill increasing the artillery service by two regiments had passed the Senate the enlistment officers of the 'Adjutant-General's office sent telegrams to all recruiting officers to begin the business of enlisting men at once. These officers had not been actively engaged for some time, on account of the fact that enlistments were up to the limit prescribed by law. The number of men to be recruited will be 1,610, and as fast as they are mustered in they will be distributed among the various posts as members of the regiments there. The plan of formation of the two new regiments has been made and will be carried into effect at once. The commissions of the new Colonels and Lieutenant. Colonels will be sent to the Senate to-mor row. All the other officers will be promoted subject to examination. The non-commissioned

officers will be taken from the privates of the present five artillery regiments. The two mixture of veteran artillery regulars and of recruits, while the recruits who are to be enlisted will be sent to the old regiments At the suggestion of Major-Gen. Miles, the headquarters of the Sixth will be at Fort Slocum. Speaker Reed dined with the Vice-President to-night and afterward went to the White

House, where the programme for the passage of the \$50,000,000 appropriation bill and other ssary legislation desired by the Administration to carry out its policy toward Spain was fully and freely discussed with the President. Speaker Reed is not by any means a jingo, but he appreciates fully the gravity of the situation, and he will stand squarely by the President in making preparations to defend the national boars. The appropriation bill will probably be reported to the House to-morrow and passed, if possible, in time to be sent to the Senate for a rote before that body adjourns for the day.

TWO NEW ARTILLERY REGIMENTS. The House Passes the Senate Bill with Only Three Dissenting Votes.

WASHINGTON, March 7.- Under an agreement reached by the Republican leaders of the House last night, Mr. Hull (Rep., Ia.), Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, immediately after the reading of the journal to day moved to suspend the rules and pass the Hawley bill increasing the artillery by two regiments. The rules provided for only twenty minutes of de-bate on a side, and Mr. Bailey (Dem., Tex.) vainly endeavored to secure an extension to

Chairman Hull opened the debate with a brief explanation of the provisions of the bill, and gave statistics regarding the coast defences of the country. By July 1 next there would be mounted on the coast 244 large defence guns and 233 mortars. It had been demonstrated that it required 18 men to man each gun. In time of war it would require 60 men to properly manage each of the disappearing guns. were 4,025 men in the artillery branch at present, and on the first of July 7,000 men needed to meet the requirements of the Government. It was necessary that these guns should be manned by a corps of men educated in their management. The charge had been made on the other side of the House that been made on the other side of the House that this increase in the standing army would be used for overawing the people of the United States. He thought this was absurd, if for no other reason than the fact that these big guns could not be dismounted and dragged around

the streets to be turned on the people. Mr. Cox (Dem., Tenn.) opposed the bill. If there was any necessity for the increase in the army, either in time of peace or war, he would not hesitate to support it, but he did not think the occasion demanded it. Besides, the President, as Commander-in-Chief of the army, had the power to fill up from the cavalry or infantry the skeleton regiments of artillery. This would

the skeleton regiments of artillery. This would provide the men necessary to man the coast defences, if it were necessary to man them, without the extra expense of \$500,000 a year. Another objection was that the increase in the number of officers would cause an undue amount of promotions. The bill would not take effect before July 1, so why, he asked, was there such great haste in passing it.

Mr. Hull denied the interference with promotions. The only branch of the service affected by promotions was that immediately concerned that the increase did not take effect until July 1. It took effect immediately it was signed by the President.

1. It took effect immediately it was sighed by the President.

'Mr. Belknap (Rep., Ill.) brought down consid-arable applicate by a short, patriotic speech in advocacy of the bill.

'Mr. Hay (Bem., Va.) said he did not believe under the exasting circumstances that Congress should place any obstacle in the way of fortify-ing the country to meet any emergency that wight arise.

ing the country to meet any emergency that might arise.

Mr. Jones (Benn., Va.) thought the promotions provided in the bill were the incentive of the efficers of the army in urging its passage. He also objected to the increase of the army in time of peace.

Mr. White (Rep., N. C.), the only colored Representative, noped one of the new regiments would be made up of men of his race.

Mr. Shafroth (Sil., Col.) expressed deep regret that even one voice should be relaced against the

passage of the bill. [Applause.] There was no doubt of the existence of an emergency, and it would be sulcidal under the circumstances not to prepare for war. [Applause.]

Mr. Williams (Dem. Miss.) said that peace was the most precious of all the possible possessions of organized society. But we were now in a state of semi-peace, which is also semi-war. It seemed to him absolutely certain that the United States would be in the not remote future forced into a war-like attitude by Spain-forced for the purpose of extricating both the reigning house and the ruling Ministry from a desporate dilemma. In that view he would vote to prepare the Government it, the best way possible for war, if it should come. [Appliause.]

Mr. Jett (Fus. III.) also advocated the measure as a necessity.

Mr. Griffin (Rep., Wis.) regretted that this was put forward as an emergency existed. [Murmurs of dissent all over the House.] He would vote for the bill, however, because it was carrying out the plan for cost defences.

Numerous requests were made for the extension of remarks in the record, but were met with refusal. As the Speaker was about to put the bill on its passage, Mr. Hailey of Texas asked unanimous consent to speak three minutes. Mr. Hepburn of lows objected.

Mr. Lewis (Fus., Wash.) endeavored to offer an amendment prohibiting the use of guns in any strike or labor dispute, but this was not in order.

The bill was then passed viva voce, only three oting in the negative. The announcement was

received with applause.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in disposing of a single measure relating to the District of Columbia, Mr. Balley insisting upon a rea and nay vote upon every motion connected with its consideration.

MORTARS FOR DEFENCE.

Practically Impossible for a Hortile Ship to Get by Them.

NORFOLK, Va., March 7 .- One of the officers at Fort Monroe, talking to-day of the new mor-tar batteries which will be ready for operation as soon as the remainder of the barrels arrive spoke in the most confident terms of their efficacy in repelling an invading fleet.
"I believe they are the most efficient defend-

ers we have," he said, "and no fleet could pass them, properly operated. The hypothetical defence of New York harbor has been much discussed, and in every instance the mortars are described as being discharged into hundredyard squares into which the enemy's vessels are supposed to be coming. That method will not be adhered to. The plan now adopted has been proved far better. The mortars will be operated, to a certain extent very much as the big imaginary square, they will be discharged at he vesselo r vessels, and no attention will be paid to the squares. That method was devised pefore the days of our wonderful little range

her range, approximate almost exactly her speed, know just how long it would take a mortar projectile to traverse the distance, and elevate the mortar so that the projectile would fall at a calculated distance in front of where the vessel was located by the range finder. The vessel and the projectile should reach the spot at the same time. In action the batteries would probably be fired in sets of four, one quartet right after the other. If a vessel succeeded in cluding the first four, one or more of our other twelve would almost certainly reach her. In any event, the discharged batteries would be loading while the others were firing, and the fire could be made practically continuous." The fort will be equipped as soon as possible with rapid fire guns as a protection against torpedo boats that might slip in.

BUSTLE AT LEAGUE ISLAND. Active Preparations for War Making-Enlist

PHILADELPHIA, March 7.—The startling news from Washington, coupled with the hurry or-ders, caused increased activity at League Island to-day. Commandant Casey, who was too busy to submit to an interview of any

length, said: "The reports from Washington as published, are true. Our design now is to hurry up the work so as to get the vessels here ready to go into service as fast as possible."

The ships of war now being made ready at League Island are the monitor Miantonomoh, the ram Katahdin and the cruisers Minneapolis and Columbia. Eight old monitors, which were used in the civil war, are also being inspected. In the event of hostilities it is the intention to use them in river defence.

It was said at the navy yard to-day that 806 men are wanted to complete the crews of the Minneapolis and Columbia. The Columbia is now on the dry dock at League Island. Sh has eighty men on board. Her con-plement is 450 men. The Minneapolis, which is lying at the wharf not a hundred yards from her, is still taking on coal. The Minneapolis will also carry 450 men. Her crew now numbers about

carry 450 men. Her crew now numbers about eignty-two men.

At 9-45 o'clock last night orders were received by Capt, Sheppard of the receiving ship Richmend to recruit men for the Minneapolis and the Columbia. Men with some sea experience will have the preference.

The mechanical force at League Island was also increased to-day. Ordinarily the force of workmen consists of about 309. To-day there are twice that number at work in the yard. For the first time in over a year steam was made in the sam Katandin to-day. Her engines are said to be in perfect condition. In 1 day or two she will be ready to go to sea. Her gun mountings, which were placed in position yesterday, are ready to receive the guns. They were removed from the Ordinance Department to-day and will be mounted to-morrow. They consist of four rapid-firing guns of light calibre. Two will be mounted forward and two aft.

The Miantonomoh is ready for service. It

bre. Two will be mounted forward and two aft.

The Miantonomoh is ready for service. It was said at the yard to-day that the monitor, which is intended for the defence of the port of Philadelphia, will be the last vessel to leave. Work on the Columbia is to be pushed with all possible haste. The painters began work on her this morning. In compliance with the orders from Washington the cruisers are to be ready for service by March 15. Commandant Casey says they will be ready by that time.

The news that 800 men were wanted to make up the crows of the cruisers Minneapelis and Columbia spread like wildfire over Philadelphia. All day long recruits presented themselves on board the litchmond, beginning when the gates were opened at 9 o'clock. They kept coming in a steady stream until late in the afternoon. Most of them were rejected, because they did not have any experience at sea. About a dozen first-class machinists and firemen, however, were secured.

Annunition for the ships is now stored at Fort Miffilm. They will go there to take it on board.

Commander George F. F. Wilde, who will

Commander George F. F. Wilde, who will command the ram Katahdin, which will go into commission next Thursday, arrived at League

WOULD BRING BACK MAINE'S DEAD. Croker Suggests That Congress Should Provide

Richard Croker has sent the following letter o Congressman George B. McClellan:

to Congressman George B. McClellan:

MY DEAR CONGRESSMAN: It has seemed to
me that the sentiment of the American people
will not permit the remains of those who lost
their lives in the service of their country to lie
in foreign graves while the opportunity
exists to bring them back to their own
country. I think a hill should be introduced
in Congress making provision for the
memoval of the remains of all the victims of the
Maine disaster and their burial at the places desired by their relatives. The unidentified dead
should be buried in a national cemetery and
their places of burial marked. I hope this sugcestion will meet your approval, and that you
will have such a measure offered. Yours sincereiy.

NEW YORK, March 7. NEW YORK, March 7.

Solemn High Mass in Memory of the Maine's Victims.

WASHINGTON, March 7.-Solemn high mass was celebrated to-day at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in memory of the men who died on the Maine, Capt. F. H Harrington, with eighty-eight men from the United States Marine Corps. attended the services in uniform, and a section attended the services in uniform, and a section of the Marine Band, stationed in the choir loft, assisted in the music. A special selection, composed by a member of the band in honer of the Maine victims, was remered at the beginning of the service. The altar rail was decorated with American flags, and a bugler from the b tracks closed the exercises by sounding "taps" over the catafalque set up in the altar.

Looking Out for Coal.

Pirrishung, March 7.—Several coal firms re ceived a letter from the Navy Department today asking about their facilities for scuding coal to New Orleans. The letter asked how much coal they already have there, and what facilities the firms have for shipping further quantities. This inquiry is held to be significant, coming after the publication of reports that the Government will establish a general coaling station at New Orleans.

HAVANA MUCH EXCITED.

THE FEELING AGAINST US GROWS IN BITTERNESS. Has His Hands Full Preventing an

Anti-American Bemonstration—The News-papers Are Not Permitted to Describe the HAVANA, March 7, via Key West .- La Lucha and the Diario de la Marina received, this morning, despatches from their correspondents In New York announcing that President Mo-Kinley had refused to recall Consul-General Les or substitute merchantmen for the United States naval vessels that are to carry supplies

for the starving reconcentrados. The despatches added that there is great exitement all over the United States, and that he consensus of opinion is that a crisis is imminent in the relations between that country and Spain.

These despatches were suppressed by the press ensor. The editors personally applied to him, and after a long consultation between Gens. Blanco and Gonzalez Parrado and Secretary Congosto a brief allusion to the situation in the United States was permitted to be printed. But all the facts as they came from New York were soon made known by the editors of the newspapers to the leading politicians here, thereby kindling a blaze of indignation against the American people. All the newspapers in Havana, without exception, and all the political parties from the Weylerists to the radical Autonomists, from Senor Santos Guzman to Senor Ambiard, are united to a man in their

hatred of the United States. Up to 1 o'clock this afternoon only the efforts of Gen. Blanco prevented a hostile demonstration against the Americans. If the news of President McKinley's firm attitude is spread abroad among the crowds which are now parading the streets, full of enthusiasm over the arrival of 1,200 Spanish soldiers and the presence in the harbor of the Almirante Oquendo and the Vizcaya, very serious trouble may occur at any moment.

The Spanish garrison of regular troops are kent in their barracks ready for any emergency. But it will be very difficult for Gen. Blanco to compel the troops to charge on anti-American rioters, as the general feeling in the army is one of deep hostility to the United States.

Even at the palace, among the highest officials

and the staff of Gen. Blanco, this feeling is very evident. There is no doubt that Consul-General Lee is in great danger, and it may also be said that no man ever conducted himself with more serene courage than he is doing under the trying circumstances in which he is placed.

Gen. Blanco has privately summoned the editors of the newspapers and asked them not to excite the passions of the people, and to make very few editorial comments upon the situation. La Lucha, however, says that Spain has never feared war before, and does not fear war now and that she is ready manfully to repel any unjust aggression. The editorial even suggest that war with the United States may be a good thing for Spain under present circumstances because "she has nothing to lose."

Gen. Blanco has sent a long cable despatch t Spain describing the gravity of the situation and saying that the continued presence of Con-sul-General Lee in Havana is a source of trouble and adds to the grave responsibilities of the Captain-General.

The eighteen persons arrested here on Satur day are charged with belonging to the secret revolutionary society called "Club of Public Salvation," founded by the Cuban journalist Ricardo Arnautó, who recently escaped to the United States.

OFFER THEIR SERVICES.

tettred Officers of the Army and Havy Ready for Duty. WASHINGTON, March 7.-Many retired loff. ers of the army and navy offered their services to the Government to-day. The Navy Department is so seriously hampered for want of sufficient complements for ships, and is so much embarrassed in finding enough officers for the Minneapolis and the Columbia, that serious consideration has been given to the requests of those on the retired list to be impressed into service. It was discovered, how ver, that retired officers could not be employed unless war were actually declared, but a list of those who have offered their services has been prepared for use in a hostile emergency The orders sent yesterday by the Navy De artment for putting the Minneapolis and the Columbia in commission immediately, mention of which was made in THE SUN to-day, have een followed by directions to the commandants of the navy yards at Brooklyn, Boston, and League Island to entist 600 men. The two cruisers each require 403 men, and the vacanments are completed will be filled by apprentice boys from the training ship Essex, now at Tompkinsville, Staten Island. Capt. Sands will command the Columbia, and Capt. Jewell the Minneapolis. A number of officers on duty at the Navy Department will be assigned to

EAGER TO ENLIST.

Seven Selected Out of 200 Applicants at the Navy Yard Yesterday.

the vessels. Nearly every officer of command

rank on shore duty has asked for a ship, and a

list has been prepared of those available for

commanding the cruisers of the auxiliary

The enlisting of men for the navy took on new impetus when the following notice was posted aboard the receiving ship Vermont at the Brooklyn Navy Yard yesterday morning: Enlist seamen, firemen and petty officers for Minneapolis and Columbia. No limit at present.

Orders at the gate were to admit every one except apprentices, and a crowd of over 200 were soon on the way to the Vermont, where nearly all were questioned, and many were turned over to the medical examiners. Seven actual enlistments were made, four being re enlistments. The new men were immediately assigned to quarters aboard the Vermont, and the reënlisted men were told to report in their old uniforms at 9 o'clock this morning.

A consignment of about twenty 5 and 6 inch rapid lire guns has arrived from Washington, rapid fire guns has arrived from Washington, and one lighter load was brought from the Jersey City terminus of the Pennsylvania Raffroad yesterday. The consignment includes six 6-inch guns, which were formerly the slow fire battery of the Atlanta. They were sent to Washington six months ago and have been converted into rapid-fire guns. There are also fourteen 5-inch guns for the Chicago, whose new main battery is to consist of four 8-inch and fourteen 5-inch rapid-fire guns. The Atlanta and Chicago are now being rebuilt in the navy yard, and will not be ready for these guns for six months probably. In the mantime the guns could, upon occasion, be used for arming the auxiliary cruisers. There would be slightly different mounts used on the auxiliary cruisers. The guns will be stored in one of the buildings regularly used for that purpose.

Six men on the sick list were transferred from the training ship Essex to the Naval Hospital yesterday. They were brought up from the training ship on the tug Narkecta. It is not expected that the Essex will report at the Navy Yard during her stay in this port.

The report published in an evening paper yesterday that the New York Hiscait Company was working night and day to fill an order for 80,000 boxes of hard tack for naval stations could not be verified at the yard. A requisition for hardack was sent in some time ago, but it was not a hurry order and was for about one-fiftlein the amount mentioned in the evening paper. The manager of the biscuit company said last night that there was no work on any navy order going on at present.

Hardack, or pilot bread, as the bakers call it, is not a staple article of food abover the verified at the verified at food and the stay in the second some time ago, but it was not a furry order and was for about one-fiftlein the amount mentioned in the evening paper. The manager of the biscuit company said last night that there was no work on any navy order going on at present. and one lighter load was brought from the Jer-

on at present.

Hardiack, or pilot bread, as the bakers call it, is not a staple article of food aboard the war ships, as all are equipped with overs for baking fresh bread, which is far more popular with the

GEN. MERRITT'S TRIP SOUTH.

Plans for an Inspection of Army Posts and Owing to the necessity of going to receive Prince Albert of Helgium, who is expected to arrive here to-day on the steamship Kaiser

Molped Sell and the Declines Wes

Before the local stock market opened yesterday the news came by cable that American stocks in the London market were demoralized and had registered serious declines on account of the strained relations of the United States and Spain, and also because of the situation in China. The news from abroad prepared the local operators for the smash in values that occurred at the opening here. heavy liquidation, with forced selling because of stop loss orders and the exhaustion of margins. Selling for bear account also helped in decline. Severe losses were recorded at the opening or within the next five minutes all through the list of stocks actively dealt in Declines of more than two points compared with Saturday's closing figures were general, and the recessions extended to 414 points for Manhat-tan, 514 points for Sugar Refining, and 8 points for Metropolitan Street Railway. In the first ew minutes complete demoralization prevailed,

can, 5½ points for Sugar Refining, and a points for Metropolitan Street Rallway. In the first few minutes complete demoralization prevailed, but after that the selling pressure lessened, and there was a disposition on the part of some of the operators for bear account to corral their profits on the short side of the market. The buying from this source was supplemented by buying by bargain hunters, nearly always a feature after a sovere market shake-down, and particularly noticeable by the appearance on the ticker tape of transactions in fractional lots—that is, less than 100 shares. Many such transactions were recorded during the day.

On the other hand liquidation by holders of securities, fearful of developments likely to bring about a further decline, was in progress in volume all day. Also on the selling side, besides those who put out short contracts, were the so-called foreign and London houses. A partial recovery followed the opening decline, and after that the market was the subject of nervous, erratic changes in price levels.

The news of the favorable Supreme Court decision in the Nebraska rate case was followed by a fractional rally, but the advance seemed only to incite a revival of selling and prices yielded again. They rallied on advices from Washington that Spain Lad withdrawn its request for Consul-General Lee's recall, but sold off on the introduction in the house by Mr. Cannon of the bill appropriating \$50,000,000 for the national defence. The closing was quiet at a rally, but with the list showing general declines extending to very material losses in some cases. Railroad bonds participated in the decline. United States Government bonds were lower, with the 4s of 1925 122½ bid against 123½, the price at which a sale was made on Saturday, a decline of 3 points.

An incident of the day in the financial district was the arrival of the tist gold on the present import movement. The steamships Gracount. French rentes were 22½ centimes lower. Spanish Government 4 per cent. bonds were quoted at 56, ag

DYNAMITE IN HER HOLD. Bark Santingo Clears for Callac with a Cargo of Explosives.

The bark Santiago was hauled up alongside of Lehigh Valley Railroad pier D in Jersey City etween 8 and 9 o'clock yesterday morning, and shortly afterward a freight car which had been lying in the yard for several days was switched down. A gang of freight handlers prepared to ransfer the contents of the car to the bark. On either side of the car were cards bearing the inscription in red letters: "Powder. Handle gently." The car contained boxes about three feet long and twelve inches wide. They were marked, "Dynamite," "Explosives," "Handle gently." They were also marked, "Callao, gently." Peru," but did not bear the name of any con

Peru, but did not bear the bases had been shipped signee.

It was learned that the boxes had been shipped from the Ætna Powder Works in Chicago. Suggestions were freely offered that the explosives were destined for Spain. In the office of the freight department it was said that the car was billed to Jersey City, and the ultimate destination of its contents was not known. It was also said in the office that shipments of powder and dynamite are not unusual. The boxes were carefully passed from the car to the vessel and lowered into the hold. The mate of the Santiago superintended the transfer.

lowered into the hold. The mate of the Santiago superintended the transfer.

A. Christianson, the Captain of the Santiago, said that he had instructions to deliver the cargo at Calino. It was possible, he said, that his instructions might be changed. Capt. Christiansen said he did not know where the powder and dynamite came from, and he did not know who the consignees are. C. Tobias & Co. of 68 New street, the agents, had not taken him into their confidence.

The transfer of the explosives was completed their confidence.

The transfer of the explosives was completed shortly after 2 o'clock, and the Santiago went away an hour later. She had cleared for Callao.

WORK OF CUBAN RELIEF. ensul Hyatt of Santingo on the Good Tha

The Central Cuban Relief Committee received cable despatch yesterday from Miss Clara Barsaying that Clenfuegos, Sagua, Matanzas,

and other places had been visited; that the disributions were being well made and that several hospitals had been established. Pulaski F. Hyatt, United States Consul at Santiago. "Your second supply of medicines has reached

here, with practically no trouble from the Cus-tom House, nor will there be any. This second tom House, nor will there be any. This second arrival is most opportune. The death rate dropped off one-fifth the first week. All opposition to the distribution has vanished and hosannas to the United States are freely sung.

"I have a joint committee appointed by the Governor and myself to look after the business end of the work, and a committee of twenty ladies to do house to-house work.

"Unless money is abundant I would not advise that much money be spent for clothing, as the climate demands but little, and the conventionalities of society are very tolerant of defects in this line. Nevertheless, some linen or cotton clothing would be very acceptable.

"The issuing of food and clothing will be done near the Consulate, but I will be obliged to keep a man at the door of the Consulate to answer questions and keep back the crowds, which are already so great as to almost prevent proper attention to business."

A LETTER FROM CLARA BARTON. She Acknowledges a Contribution from the Brooklyn Congregational Club.

Mr. H. W. Brinkerhoff, treasurer of the Congregational Club in Brooklyn, has received this communication from Miss Clara Barton of the American National Red Cross Society, who has been in Cuba for several weeks, superintending the distribution of relief to the starving reconcentrados:

"I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of your check for twenty (\$20) dollars, as connected with my expenses in attending your most de-

with my expenses in attending your most de-lightful meeting of the 24th of last month. Pray accept my thanks for the, o me, courteous gift, for I cannot make it seem to me that I was of the smallest service to you.

"The scene has materially changed for me since that peaceful, charming evening. I feel like repeating from Mrs. Hemans: 'I have looked on death since I met ye last.' And such deaths, living deaths, worse than the dead!

"Still, we are getting hold of it, don't despair. America is doing a grand work; ahundred thou-sand wretched people are praying for her to-night. Let her push on to a better end that is sure to come."

DAUNTLESS LIBELLED AGAIN. the Carried Arms Against a "Power with Whom We Are at Peace,"

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 7.-A libel was filed against the tug Dauntless this afternoon by J. M. Stripling, United States District Attorney, charging her with fillbustering. Deputy Marshal Smith was placed on board, and the owners notified. Mr. Hisbee was at his the owners notified. Mr. Hisbee was at his home, being confined to his room by rheumatism. When informed of the fate of his boat he merely said, "I expected it," and smiled. The liber charges two expeditions, one in May, 1897, from near Fort Brooke, and the other on Feb. 13, 1897, from Fernandins. It recites that the vessel carried an armed expedition against the Spanish Government, "a power with whom we are at peace," says the libel. No details are recited, and nothing to show what evidence the Government has of the boat's work. By order of the court, the vessel may pursue her usual work if a marshal is kept on board.

Came to New York and Met Thieres. NORWALK, Conn., March 7 .- George Smibert.

willeling der Grosse, Gen. Merritt will probably delay his proposed tour of inspect in of tortifications and army posts in the South. He had made arrangements to leave at noon to-day, but will wait now until the Prince arrives. His trip will include, probably, Atlanta, Savannah, Charleston, and Mobile, as well as the posts in Florida, and will probably last from two to three weeks. He will always be within reach of telegrams, and will not make his trip in a hearty.

Norwalk, Conn., March 7.—George Smibert, a farmer from Weston, a rural village near here, arrived in Norwalk late last evening, having walked the entire distance from New York. Smibert went to the city last Thursday to see the sights, He had a gold watch, \$195 in money, and a new suit of clothes. It was the old story of bunco men again and an invitation to take a drink. When he came to his senses he had on an old suit of clothes and his watch and money were gone.

FIERY SIGNS IN THE SKY.

WHITE CROSS ON THE MOON, RED SWORD IN THE NORTH, Atmospheric Phenomeun-The Crass Was a Hare Form of Halo, Attributed to Refraction by Lee Crystals-A Pice in Per-Lee and the Misty Air Expinin the Red Shaft

There were two atmospheric phenomena last ight that scared the superstitious and se half the people who were not superstitious to telling old fables about flery sig nals in the sky that portend war. first of these, was a cross on the moon in the eastern sky, that satellite appearing to put out four arms of white light. This rare example of the halo had scarcely vanished when, a little after 8 o'clock, in the northern sky appeared what might very well be called a flaming sword blade of gigantic size, that remained suspended vertically in midneaven for nearly two hours. This was by all odds the strangest spectacle of the two.

It was a perpendicular shaft of light, flery red in color, and was perfectly steady. It appeared rom the weather man's cyry to rise from a little above the horizon in the north, half way to the zenith. It was unbroken its entire length. A little while after its appearance there was a bank of flery red cloud underneath it. This cloud had the general rolling shape of a snow cloud in the sky. Between it and the perpen-

cloud in the sky. Between it and the perpendicular beam there was a clear space.

A moment after the appearance of the light crowds collected in the streets and on the Brookiyn Bridge and watched it. What it was nobody could guess. For a little time it grew in brilliancy. There was all sorts of speculation about it. Some people thought it was a new signal that the United States Navy was testing. Others thought it was a comet. Others the aurora borealis.

In Union square and Madison square a number of negroes, mostly mon, were sitting the aurora borealis.

In Union square and Madison square a number of negroes, mostly mon, were sitting when the spike of fire appeared. Their attention was attracted by it, and to some of them it presented itself as a sign in the heavens. The negroes gathered in groups in the parks, speculating among themselves as to the meaning of the sign. To some it appeared as the sign of "the sword of the Lord and of Gideon" and one negro asserted to a SUN reporter that the sign meant war, portending a conflict between the United States and Spain, and that in the struggle New York was to suifer. This man was the centre of a knot of twenty or thirty people, a majority of whom were of his own race. Most of them seemed inclined to accept his belief, although a few favored a theory that the appearance was due to the reflection of light from an electric sign on upper Broadway.

Another group gathered about a negro street preacher, who, when his attention was called to the glow, affirmed that it was the pillar of flame which led Israel through the wilderness. His auditors didn't believe this, and told the preacher that there was probably a fire in Harlem.

Others thought that the light was due to a

prescher that there was probably a fire in Harlem.

Others thought that the light was due to a comet, but to most of them no explanation presented itself, and they said little about it, expressing their wonder by standing perfectly still and watching it. At the junction of Twenty-third stroet, Broadway, and Fifth avenue the curbs were lined with men and women, and the uptown windows of the hotels were occupied by persons watching the sky. At the small tower in Central Park near the reservoir there were sixty or seventy men and women, who stood for an hour watching the red cloud. A Harlem observer telephoned to The Sun at 9 o'clock that it looked like a comet.

or seventy men and women, who stood for an hour watching the red cloud. A Harlem observer telephoned to THE SUN at 9 o'clock that it looked like a comet.

"It has a tail," he said, "It is in the northwest and appears to be headed for Harlem." When the light began to die away, the rolling cloud beneath the perpendicular disappeared first. Then there came breaks in the shaft. At one time the perpendicular shaft was in three pieces. Gradually the two uppermost disappeared. The lower part of the shaft faded slowly. At twenty minutes before 10 o'clock it had disappeared entirely.

When the interest in the streets was at its height THE SUN was called on the telephone by its Fort Lee reporter, who said that there was a big fire over there. This seemed to explain the mystery. Fort Lee is almost due north from the weather man's tower. Inquiries were made of reporters in towns lying west and north of Fort Lee. Each located the light in the direction of Fort Lee, so the probability is that the fire caused the phenomenon. The fire was at the water's edge, with the river for a mirror.

The Weather Bureau said that this was the only explanation it could offer. The weather sharp on duty said that the horizontal line, meaning the roll of fire at the bottom, was easily explained by the fire. It was hard to understand the perpendicular shaft, but it must have been due to a peculiar "lay" or stratification of the mist, a rift in the mist permitting the reflection of light that was seen. The atmosphere has been in a peculiar state for two days. There was a "snow ring" around the moon on Sunday night and yesterday an Indian summer haze dimmed the sky.

Early last night the moon showed a fine paraselenic display, four arms appearing to shoot out from it in such a way as to form a cross, with the moon for a centre. Lee crystals in the lower air through which the moon is seen are the cause of such phenomena. With a cross on one side of the heavens, followed by a flaming sword on the other, it is no wonder that the believers in heavenl

OBITUARY.

Thomas J. Callahan, one of the best-known telegraph operators in the country, died in Boston yesterday morning, aged 60 years. Mr. Callahan began work under F. O. J. Smith, who was associated with Prof. Morse in the introduction associated with Prof. Morse in the introduction of the Morse system used first by the Union Telegraph Company in the early fifties. He was a brother of E. A. Callahan of New York, inventor of several well-known electrical appliances. During the war Mr. Callahan was superintendent of the Boston office, and was actively embloyed up to three months ago. He acquired considerable fame at one time from the fact that he could receive equally well by either the Bain or the Morse system. Mr. Callahan taught F. S. Oaks telegraphy, through which occupation Mr. Oaks worken his way up to the Presidency of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Gen. Nolson B. Sweitzer, U. S. A. retired died

Presidency of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

Gen. Nelson B. Sweitzer, U. S. A., retired, died at his home in Washington yesterday, aged 65. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and was graduated from the Military Academy in 1853, in the class with Sheridan, McPherson, Schoffold, Tyler, Wilson, Hood and Craighill. During the war he saw much service in the cavary branch, being at one time Colonel of the Sixteenth New York Cavalry, and afterward of the Third New York Cavalry, and afterward of the Third New York Provisional Cavairy, and was brevetted ove times for meritorious service. His last brovet rank was that of Brigadier-General, which was conferred in 1865 for gallant and meritorious services during the war. After the war he served as Major of the Second Cavalry, and at his own request was retired in 1888, with the rank of Colonel.

Thomas W. Reynolds of Rahway, N. J. one

and at his own request was retried in 1986, with the rank of Colonel.

Thomas W. Reynolds of Rahway. N. J., one of the first Sheriffs of Union county, died yesterday. He was born at Allentown, Monmouth county, on March 6, 1898. His grandfather fought in the battle of Monmouth in 1778, and his father, who was then a boy of 12 years, witnesses the battle. His grandfather's brother, John Reynolds, was in the famous Light Horse Cavalry. Thomas W. Reynolds was Sheriff of Union county from 1860 to 1863. Forty-three years of his life were spent in political office. He was Commissioner of Deeds for fifteen years, a Freeholder for ten years, and a Magistrate for several years. He kept the Wheatsheaf Hotel from 1833 to 1838, and the Springfield Hotel for twenty-one years. He was a Jacksonian Democrat.

crat.

Mrs. Harriet M. Dunning, a well-known philanthropist, died on Saturday night at her home, 274 Fourth street, Jersey City, in her seventy-second year. She had an attack of picurisy about a week ago and it developed into pneumonia, Mrs. Dunning was the widow of J. D. Dunning. She was the founder of the Home of the Homeless, and had always taken an active part in its management. She was also actively interested in other charitable institutions, and the greater part of her life had been devoted to charitable work. She leaves a son, Cornelius M. Dunning, and a daughter, Mrs. J. D. Higham.

The Rev. Dr. Charles S. Coit, a well-known.

The Rev. Dr. Charles S. Coit, a well-known Methodist minister, died suddenly on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Miss Nettle Coit, in Clinton avenue, Irvington, N. J. Dr. Coit was 75 years old. He had twice been Presiding Elder of the Paterson district. For the last ten years he had had no church. He will be buried on Thursday from the Centenary M. E. Church in Newark.

Newark.

John S. Hayes, city librarian of Somerville,
Mass., for four years, died yesterday morning,
aged 52 years. Mr. Hayes was a school teacher
for nearly forty years and principal of many
large schools in Massachusetts. He was also
prominent in the Masonic order.

Mrs. Zerviah Gould Mitchell is dead at North
Abington, Mass., aged 91. She was a descendant in the seventh generation of the old Indian
King Massagott.

Jacob Finnders is dead at Amesbury M.

Jacob Flanders is dead at Amesbury, Mass. He was an intimate friend of Henry Ward Beecher and a pioneer merchant in the oil trade in Brooklyn.

The Castilian Prince Bisabled. CHARLESTON, S. C., March 7.-The British

steamer Castilian Prince from New York, bound for New Orleans, light, was towed in here to-day by the steamer Ethelred. The Prince was caught off Hatters in a storm and her pro-peller broken. She was in a helpless condition when picked up.

One Night to Denver. A magnificently equipped train has been placed in service between Chicago and Denver, via the Chicago. Union Pacine and Northwestern Line, making the fastest schedule ever maintained between these points. This train, "The Colorado Special," leaves Circago 10:00 A. M. dally, arriving Benver 1:10 the following afternoon. For full information a loress H. A. Gross, General Eastern Agent. Northwesterd Line, 461 Broadway, New York.—Adv. ALLEGED FORGER ARRESTED.

In Benestred a Worthless Cheek for 88,000 Detectives Hahn and Cunningham of the Oak street police station arrested yesterday Stewart N. Bunker, 24 years old, who said he lived at 13 East Blymen street, Montolair, N. J. He is charged with forgery. The complainant is Max Katzenberger, a printer and stationer, do-ing business at 424 Broome street.

According to Katzenberger, Bunker came to him yesterday and represented himself to be the European agent of Mandel & Co., merchants of 24 Howard street. After winning his confidence Bunker said he had a check for \$3,090, drawn on the Garfield National Bank of this city by "J. O. Kipp," payable to Stewart N. Bunker. Bunker said that he would like to deposit it, and Katzenberger suggested the Mechanics and Traders' Bank at 486 Broadway

Mechanics and Traders' Bank at 486 Broadway. Bunker appeared glad of the opportunity, and Katzenberger went around to the bank with him to make the deposit. Katzenberger introduced Bunker to Assistant Cashler Peck of the bank and told Peck that Bunker was "all right." Peck took the check without question, entered it and gave Bunker a bank book and a check book of the bank.

After the deposits had been made, Katzenberger's suspicions were aroused in some way, so he suggested to Bunker that they go downtown and have a talk with Kipp, the man by whom the check was supposed to be drawn.

Bunker assented, and they went down to Park row. When they reached No. 39, Bunker stopped and said to Katzenberger that he would step inside to see if Kipp was there. Katzenberger followed and Bunker ran out of the rear door. Katzenberger shouted "Police!" and Detective Hahn caught Bunker. He was taken to the Oak street police station, where checks on the Joliet National Bank, Ill., were found on him, together with a check for \$40 and another for \$6, drawn on the Mechanics and Traders' Bank.

Detective Allen and Katzenberger went to the Mechanics and Traders' Bank and resurrected the check for \$3,090 which had been deposited. The Garfield Bank stamped it "bad," and it will be used as evidence against Bunker.

WANTS HIS PRESENTS BACK. Leary Calued a Young Wife by a Bood of Roal

John Leary, who is 60 years old, is seeking to have the New Jersey Court of Chancery se aside a deed conveying property to Catharine his 22-year-old wife. They live in Rahway and their marriage in 1896 caused no end of talk because of the difference in their ages. They lived together only six months. Since then Mr Leary has caused his wife's arrest for calling him vile names, and she has had him arrested for non-support.

Their most serious conflict since separation however, is the present one over the Learn property in Rahway. It was deeded by Leary to his wife on condition that the conveyance should not be recorded until after his death. The deed was given into the care of the Rev. Father McCosker of Rahway. Soon after she left Leary, Mrs. Leary consulted a lawyer and on his advice obtained the document from the priest and had it placed or record. These facts were brought out yesterday when Chancellor Reed, sitting in Newark, heard testimony in the case.

Reed, sitting in Newark, heard testimony in the case.

Mrs. Leary testified that she left her husband because he did not give her enough to eat and was continually reproaching her for not emulating his first wife. She said she first met Mr. Leary in the Children's Home in Rahway. She was employed there and he delivered milk there from his one cow dairy. A week after their first meeting he proposed marriage and for seven months thereafter he renewed his proposal two or three times a week. She finally consented when he agreed to give her half of his rents during, his lifetime and to deed the property to her.

Leary testified that he always treated his wife well, and several tradesmen of Rahway testified that he bought "lamb chops and cake" and provided his wife with two or three bottles of beer a day.

The Vice-Chancellor reserved his decision.

ENOCH PRATT'S EXECUTORS SUEL Litigation About the Disposition of the Mil

BALTIMORE, March 7 .- The trustees of the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital to-day took egal steps to cotain possession of the bequests eft to the Sheppard Asylum by the will of the late Enoch Pratt. Ex-Gov. William Pinkney Whyte, George R. Willis, and Charles C. Homer, Jr., filed to-day a bill in the Circuit Court No. 2 against James A. Gary and Arnold S. Hyde, executors of the will, to recover the resi-due of the estate which Mr. Pratt left to the Sheppard Aylum, on condition that the name of the corporation should

that the name of the corporation should be changed by an act of the Legislature from the trustees of the Sheppard Asylum to the trustees of the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital. It is asserted that the whole estate is worth \$1.250,000, and that the executors have been asked to turn over the property to the asylum, and have received certified copies of the bills providing for the change of name. They have refused to turn over the money. It is asked that they account under order of the court, for the residue of the estate.

It has been learned that the Pratt heirs are extremely active in the matter. It was rumored that they had already had counsel preparing papers in a suit against the executors to get possession of the property. It is said too, that Mr. Abner McKinley, brother of the President, is taking a very active interest, He represents the Pratt heirs and, it is said, was using strong pressure upon Mr. James A. Gary to take action in anticipation of the action of the trustees of the Sheppard Asylum. For that reason the presents suit will be a means of relief to the executors.

TO BUILD A RAILROAD IN MEXICO. Nassan Construction Company Contracts With the Chihuahua and Pacific.

What is stated to be the largest contract made n this country since 1893 for steam railroad construction was signed yesterday by Presiden Almeric H. Paget of the Chihuahua and Pacific Railroad Company with the Nassau Construction Company of this city. It is for the contion Company of this city. It is for the construction of a steam railroad in Mexico, from the silver mining regions of Chihuahua to the Gulf of California, a distance of 350 miles. Under the terms of the contract 120 miles are to be completed before Nov. 1 next. Col. Oliver H. Payne, Moore & Schley, and Mr. Paget are the chief owners of the railroad. The Nassau Construction Company was organized last year by Col. G. B. M. Harvey. It did a large part of the underground electric work of the Metropolitan Street Railway, and absorbed subsequently the firm of Moore, Dudley & Hodge, contractors of this city. this city.

CLOTHES FOR DESTITUTE CUBANS.

Workrooms in Aster Place Opened by the Order of the King's Daughters and Sons. The International Order of the King's Daughers and Sons has opened at 17 Astor placworkrooms in which to make clothes for destitute women and children in Cuba. Miss Har ton says that great numbers of them are in rags, and many have practically no clothes, and that "America's sewing girls can never ply their fingers in a more freedy or more grateful cause than that of Cuba's stricken women and palethan that of Cuba's stricken women and pale-faced little girls in rags."

The Chairman of the committee in charge is Miss Margaret P. Barker, treasurer of the or-der. The rooms are furnished with cutting tables and sewing machines, and it is hoped to forward hundreds of garments by every week's steamer. Contributions are requested of calleo, sheeting, lawn—in fact, anything that can be made into summer clothing.

BADGES FOR THE 47TH REGIMENT. Presented at a Review by Brig.-Gen, James M. Kirby, L. R. P.

Brig.-Gen. James M. Kirby, Inspector of Rifle Practice, reviewed the Forty-seventh Regiment at its armory on Marcy avenue, Williamsburg, last night, and presented experts' and sharpshooters' badges. Badges were presented to the following mem-

Experts-Capt. John F. Henry, Sergeant W. L. Coultar, Sergeant John B. Christoffel, Private T. W. Lent, and Sergeant William R. Collins. Sharpshooters—Sergeant-Major F. H. Hobbey, Quartermaster-Sergeant G. Walsh, Sergeant G. Serenbetz, Corporal J. H. Huston, Private C. A. Baldwin, and Private J. Struzz.

BICYCLIST RUN DOWN BY WAGON. His Leg Broken-Briver of the Wagon Arrested by a Bicycle Policeman,

bers of the regiment:

Elias Deviries, a salesman of 2 East 120th street, while crossing Park avenue at Eightyfourth street yesterday afternoon on his bicycle was run down by a horse and wagon driven by was run down by a horse and wagon driven by Emil Schweizer of 111 Hudson struct, Hoboken. Devirios a left leg was broken and he was also hadiy bruised. After running him down Schweizer whipped up his horse and drove down the avenue. Heyele Policeman Doyle, who had witnessed the accident, caught him at Eightich street. He was locked up in the East Eighty-eighth street station. Deviries was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital. Tuesday, March 8th. Ladies Underwear.

Outing Flannel Underskirts, -with scalloped edge-25 cts. Cambric Drawers, -trimmed with embroidery-

Nainsook & Cambric Drawers -trimmed with fine embroidery or lace-98c. & \$1.25. Cambric Gowns,

50 cts.

75C., 98C. & \$1.25.

Nainsook Gowns,

-in different designs, trimmed with lace or embroidery.

\$1.25 & \$1.95. Nainsook Chemises, 98c., \$1.25 & \$1.95. Nainsook Corset Covers, -tucked and drawn in at waist-

50 cts. Cambric Skirts,

98c., \$1.25, \$1.95,2.45 Cambric Skirts, \$1.95 & \$2.95.

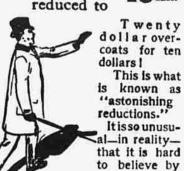
Silk Skirts,

-In black, also fancy stripe or check taffets,
with corded or tucked and dust ruffes-\$6.75.

Lord & Taylor,
Broadway & 20th St.

We shall not carry anything over. Everything sold the season it's made.

Two-thirds of all the Overcoats in this store are reduced to



quainted with this store. You'll be well satisfied if

It is actually true as stated. The reason for it is in the two lines that head this advertise-

people unac-

We guarantee it by refunding money to every dissatisfied purchaser.

E O Thompson's Sons To-order Clothing Ready-made Clothing 245 Broadway above Park Place.

B. Altman & Co. now displaying in their windows, examples of the prevailing fashions in Rich Laces, Draperies, etc.

Mineteenth Street and Sixth Hvenue.

"77" for Colds. La Grippe is a Cold.

Influenza is a Cold. Sore Throat is a Cold. Bronchitis is a Cold. A Cough is a Cold. At druggists; price, 25c., 50c., or \$1.00. Humphreys' Medicine Company, New York

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL ROW. Soard of Education at Last Surrentlers to the

High School Class of '96. MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., March 7 .- After an exciting struggle of several months the Board of Education to-night adopted resolutions giving to the High School class of 1896 diplomas of graduation. The board had hitherto declined to issue the diplomas because of a contention that the class had not completed the full three years course of studies prescribed by the regents.

ITCHING SKIN DISEASES

SPEEDY CURE TREATMENT for torturing, during, liching, burning, and acaly skin and diseases with loss of heir. — Warm baths wit Ticusa. Soar, gentle applications of Curricus E. Guttmentl, and fall doses of Curricus E. TEST, greatest of blood purifiers and humor

RED ROUGH HANDS Befored and Beautiful